

work to be done, largely of the farm demonstration type, to meet certain situations in which the most practical and economical solution seems to be, not in attempts at bird control, but in the avoidance of damage by a well planned change in the crops being raised." This article should be read in its entirety in order to appreciate its full purport.—J. G.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB  
MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Orni-

asked if any one knew the results of the Committee's meeting held in the East. Mr. Willett responded that it looked as though they had turned over to the gun clubs the remnants of the ducks and geese to be fed and then killed. In reply as to the advisability of sending in a protest, Mr. Willett told of the personal letters already sent to Washington by several members of the Cooper Club, enclosing a copy of the Resolutions on the Conservation of Ducks and Geese in California proposed by the Cooper Club, and protesting that the attitude of Mr. Foran, president of the Committee, was not the attitude of the conservationists, and stating that the



Fig. 45. Harold Michener, Member Board of Governors C. O. C., ex-president of Western Bird Banding Association.



Fig. 46. Josephine R. Michener, co-worker with Mr. Michener in studies of plumage and behavior.

thological Club was held at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, 1934, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with twenty members and guests present. In the absence of President Abbott, the meeting was called to order by Vice-president Cowles and the minutes of the Southern Division for June were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for June were read.

A letter from Mr. Harry B. Hawes, chairman of the Model Game and Fish Law Committee, was read and the Chair

California representative was the representative of the gun clubs and not of the conservationists.

Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of Tucson, Arizona, spoke briefly of birds noted on some of his Arizona trips. He stated that the long continued drought was gradually drying up water holes and marshes all over the southern area, and that overgrazing was doing away with the vegetation so necessary to the seed-eating birds. He spoke, also, of the very apparent interest now being shown by different individuals

in preparing for publication the records of Arizona's fauna.

Various field observations were given by members and the evening was spent in ornithological chatter interesting to those participating but difficult to record.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

AUGUST.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Tuesday, August 28, 1934, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Abbott in the Chair and forty members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for July were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for July were read.

Applications for membership were presented, as follows: Mr. Parker D. Trask, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., by Roland C. Ross; Mrs. Harold Michener, 418 North Hudson Avenue, Pasadena, by Harold Michener; and Mr. James G. Paterson, 1961 Belamy Street, Santa Clara, by Gayle Pickwell.

The status of ducks and geese in the midwestern and western flight areas, if the shooting bill already signed by the President is passed, was again brought to the attention of the Southern Division by Mr. Willett. He outlined the purpose of a specially called joint meeting held in Los Angeles, August 17, at which representatives from seven well-known conservation organizations were present. At this meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the prolonged drought has destroyed a majority of migratory waterfowl nesting places, and

Whereas, a continued open shooting season would irreparably destroy breeding stock needed to protect waterfowl from extinction, therefore

Be it resolved, that the President of these United States be petitioned to proclaim a closed hunting or shooting season on all migratory waterfowl for the year 1934, at least for the Midwestern and Western flight areas.

This resolution was embodied in a letter addressed to President Roosevelt. A draft of the letter was to be circulated for approval among the various conservation organizations in southern California, and final action taken in early September when a second joint meeting was to be held. The content of the letter was read by Mr. Willett, and the motion made by him, that the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club add its endorsement of approval, was seconded by Mr. Laurence Peyton, and unanimously carried.

A live albino cowbird, uniformly gray in color, was exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Michener. The bird had been captured in Pasadena and had been given to them.

Mr. Chambers reported a recent field observation made by Mr. Harvey Anderson of seven California Condors feeding on one dead sheep near Sandberg's.

The program of the evening, "Some Birds and Animals of Eaton Canyon," was presented by Dr. Spencer R. Atkinson. Dr. Atkinson spoke of the minimum effort expended in taking both day and night motion pictures at his home in Altadena, and of the interest and enjoyment his family had derived in watching the mannerisms and feeding habits of birds and of animals. The apparent fearlessness of one species for another was particularly noticeable. Birds and foxes ate together from the same small table; a family of raccoons and a family of ring-tails seemed to find pleasure in close association, and the ubiquitous *Mephitis* joined any and all groups. Various questions were answered regarding the sort of food used, the increase or decrease in wild life population, and the number of different species noted. At the close of the talk, President Abbott, on behalf of the Cooper Club members, extended thanks to Dr. Atkinson for the very entertaining evening.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Thursday, July 26, 1934, in the Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Pickwell in the Chair and about forty members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for June were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for June were read.

Notes from the field were as follows: Mr. John Arnold reported taking a set of fresh eggs of the LeConte Thrasher in June, near Coalinga; Mrs. Mead the successful rearing of three broods of Robins on Etna Street, Berkeley, and the continued welfare of the escaped Crow and Yellow-billed Magpie which are living at large in the same neighborhood; Mr. Cain upon a trip into the Sierra above Hetch-Hetchy, where eighty-three species of birds were seen between June 11 and 24. Species not noted in the region on previous trips were the Swainson Hawk,

Western Lark Sparrow and Bullock Oriole.

Dr. Pickwell, who spent part of June in the San Bernardino Mountains near Bear Lake, told of finding nests of the Eared Grebe on the pond weeds of the lake and nests of Horned Larks on the margin, the latter on the shore where the retreating waters had laid down a carpet of algal scum, which, becoming dried, created a belt of mimic desert. At the base of the mountains near a Fremont cottonwood oasis Dr. Pickwell saw all three of our California goatsuckers in the air at once; the Poorwill, the Texas Nighthawk and the Pacific Nighthawk.

The first paper of the evening was by John R. Arnold on "The Mockingbirds of three years ago show a continued widening of the area of occupation. No single bird was published in the Auk twenty-California." Mr. Arnold's continued observations and careful compilation of the records made by other students since a map showing the range of the Mockingfactor alone accounts for this, but three impelling causes are the increasing warmth and aridity of the climate, the changing agricultural conditions, and the increase in the numbers of berry-producing shrubs.

Mr. Lawrence V. Compton presented the second talk, "Nevada Birds," and spoke upon species seen at Mt. Rose, Walker Lake, Wheeler Peak and along the Colorado River during a field trip made in May and June this year. The last-named area proved to be the place of greatest attraction to the speaker because of the sharply contrasting adjacent areas of desert and riparian growth. Green Herons were on the river, Long-billed Marsh Wrens in the tules, Lucy Warblers and Least Vireos in the willow thickets, Blue Grosbeaks and Cooper Tanagers in the cottonwoods. At dawn the White-winged Dove counterfeited the call of a rooster. Mr. Compton's enviable experience was well portrayed.

Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, Secretary.

AUGUST.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Thursday, August 23, 1934, in the Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with about seventy members and guests present and Vice-president Miller in the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for July

were read and approved. Dr. Gerald F. Stoodley, 752 Santa Barbara Road, Berkeley, California, was proposed for membership by Mrs. Kenneth Saunders, and Mr. Charles W. Quaintance, Estes Park, Colorado, by Mr. Charles T. Vorhies.

Mrs. Allen reported that the Nuttall Woodpecker seen by her in Strawberry Canyon last month is still to be found there. Mr. Alden Miller told of seeing Juncos on the Campus, so young that he judged their hatching date to have been about July 25. Mr. Taylor reported that he had just seen Valley Quail in Strawberry Canyon, only a few days old.

Miss Frances Carter told of a most interesting stay she had last winter at Twenty-nine Palms on the Mohave Desert, where water, shade and abundant grass drew to the oasis many birds not found on the adjacent desert. Among the eighty-seven species of birds seen only, or trapped and banded, by her, were the Say Phoebe, Black Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Vermilion Flycatcher, Western Flycatcher, Verdin, Western Marsh Wren, Western House Wren, LeConte Thrasher, Western Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Phainopepla, ten species of warblers, Long-tailed Chat, Blue Grosbeak, English Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Oregon Junco, Lincoln Sparrow, Cinnamon Teal, American Merganser, Desert Quail, White-winged Dove, Poor-will, Texas Nighthawk and Western Belted Kingfisher. A reference to the close association in winter of Chipping Sparrows and Lazuli Buntings on the desert evoked the observation by Mr. Grinnell that these two species still maintain their comradeship in June, when they are to be found together on the fog-swept and bald-topped hills of Humboldt County.

The evening's program was an "Account of the Eighth Ornithological Congress at Oxford" by Mr. Alden H. Miller, delegate to the Congress from the Cooper Club and the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. Mr. Miller described the Oxford setting, touched briefly upon the contents of some of the papers, gave an account of the excursion to Whipsnood, and told of English birds. The Congress ended with an impressive sea trip on British destroyers to Pembroke Islands in the Irish Sea. Three islands were visited. Among sea birds at home about the islands were Gannets, Puffins, Razor-billed Auks, Storm Petrels and Kittiwakes.

Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, Secretary.